

TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Melvin Malone, Chairman
Lynn Greer, Director
Sara Kyle, Director



460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

NOTICE OF TECHNICAL WORKSHOP

IN RE: Universal Service

DOCKET NO: 97-00888

DATE: February 24, 2000

The Tennessee Regulatory Authority will conduct a workshop on **Thursday, March 16, 2000** at 9:00 am in the Hearing Room of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority located at 460 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, Tennessee.

The purpose of the workshop is to gather information on Universal Service issues as they relate to both the interstate high cost fund for nonrural carriers and to compare and contrast the interstate fund with the TRA's orders pertaining to the intrastate high cost universal service fund. Interested parties will be asked to address the following issues:

- 1) The difference between the cost benchmark approach adopted by the FCC and the revenue benchmark approach adopted by the TRA and the potential benefits and deficiencies of each approach.
- 2) The major differences between the Synthesis (Hybrid) Cost model adopted by the FCC and the two models presented to the TRA for consideration in the Universal Service proceeding.
- 3) Other differences in the methodology adopted by the Authority for the intrastate fund and the methodology adopted by the FCC.

Each industry sector (CLECs and ILECs) will be allotted ninety minutes for their presentations. It will be up to the individual companies to decide how that time will be allotted to individual companies. In addition, the Consumer Advocate's Office will be allotted forty-five minutes to present its views.

All presenters should be knowledgeable of the intricacies of the FCC's Universal Service decisions including a thorough understanding of the cost models considered. All presentations should be factual in nature; participants will not be permitted to use their presentation to advocate a position on universal service issues. Joe Werner, Chief of the TRA's Telecommunications

Division will facilitate the proceeding. A court reporter will be present to provide a transcript of the workshop.

Participants with disabilities who require special accommodations or alternate communications formats should contact the Tennessee Regulatory Authority ADA-EEO/AA Coordinator/Officer 460 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505, 1-800-342-8359 or TDD 741-3930 so that reasonable accommodations can be made.

FOR THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KDWaddell', written in a cursive style.

K. David Waddell, Executive Secretary

cc: Parties of Record
Interested Parties